

Disney's

THE LION KING

A NATURE FUN AND LEARN SERIES

53



FREE
Super
Savannah
Scene
Part 2

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Grapevine

Hi there!

The stories in Grapevine this week are all about self-defence. It seems that everyone has their own way of avoiding trouble. Rhino, for instance, sleeps beneath a pile of papers in the hope that I won't know he's there. However, huge heaps of paper do not snore, do they?

Write to:
Kim
The Lion King
PO Box 1
Basingstoke, TSS 4W

Kim

W There are eight butterflies,
A like this one, flitting
T through this magazine.
C Can you find them?
H

A Lion King Poem

Simba was rained
On the African plain,
He'd play with Nala
For days on end,
But then he had
To run away.
For what he had done
He couldn't stay.
Pumbaa and Timon
Became his friends,
Their fun and laughter
Never ends.

The days went by
And Simba grew up,
And then, out of the blue
Nala turned up.
She told Simba
He had to go home,
And challenge Scar
For his rightful throne.
The hyenas killed Scar,
Simba became King,
And to the African plain
Returned everything.

Stacey Edwards, age 14

HERE'S BLOOD IN YOUR EYE

A coyote was recovering from shock last night after an encounter with a horned lizard. Both animals were in a desert in the south-west of North America at the time. The coyote accidentally stepped on the well-camouflaged lizard. The lizard then squirted blood from its eyes. Afterwards, someone told the coyote that the lizard probably does this to scare away predators. "It w...u...works," he said, shakily.



Jason Mountford, age 11

OXEN I WOLVES O

A herd of mask oxen were forced to take defensive action yesterday when they were worried by wolves. A young oxen told me what happened. "It was brilliant!" he said, "These wolves surrounded us and they were really fierce with teeth and everything. My dad and the other males formed a ring and faced outwards and I had to get inside it. Then the wolves went away." This morning the herd were grazing peacefully.



GETTING RATTLED

Here's an excellent way of defending yourself - pretend to be someone dangerous. If a predator gets too close to a burrowing owl's home, the chicks make a sound like a rattlesnake. It's a rattlin' good way of staying safe!



PRESS CARD

Stop Press

Julian



PRESS CARD

Quentin Jones

Simon and



PRESS CARD

Simon and

Edmund

CONTENTS

53



SIMBA'S WORLD
Fish Eagles

The Ghost Elephant
Part 3



Get Drawing

Rafiki

Fab Forest
Foliage



Rivers

Night Night,
Sleep Tight



RAFIKI REMINDERS

Finding Is Keeping

FREE IN PART 54

The third and final part
of your spectacular
savannah scene.



SIMBA'S WORLD

LIGHTNING WINGS, SUPER EYESIGHT, SPIKY CLAWS AND MIGHTY WINGS: THE FISH EAGLE CAN SPOT A FISH THAT'S SWIMMING UNDERWATER, GLIDE DOWN AND SNATCH THE PREY BEFORE THE FISH REALIZES WHAT'S HAPPENING.

Fish Eagles

WATERSIDE PERCHES

Fish eagles spend most of the day perched in a tree or bush, resting in the shade or preening. They usually choose a perch that overlooks a stretch of water, so that they can watch for signs of fish.



Along the shores of Lake Tanganyika, swamps, reservoirs, and even Lake Tanganyika itself are home to a variety of fish. The fish eagles that live in these areas are known for their ability to spot fish that are hidden in the water.

Fish eagles are large, dark-winged birds with a white head and neck. They have a sharp, hooked beak and a long, pointed tail.

FACT FILE

AFRICAN FISH EAGLE

Haliaeetus vocifer

SIZE: The male is about 65cm long and has a wingspan of 1.9m; the female grows to 73cm long with a wingspan of 2.4m.

RANGE: They live close to water throughout Africa, south of the Sahara.

DIET: They mainly eat fish, but also take waterbirds, terrapins, young crocodiles and caimans.

YOUNG: 1-3.

LIFESPAN: 15-25 years.



A SPIKY TOES

The fish eagle has spikes on the undersides of its toes to help it get a good grip of its slippery prey. If the fish weighs more than 2.5kg, the eagle can't lift it clear of the water, so it drops the fish along the surface, paddling through the water with its wings.

Y FISH MEAL

The fish eagle carries its prey to the shore and tears it apart with its sharp, hooked beak. It needs about 1.5kg of fish a day to stay healthy.

SNATCHING A MEAL

Fish eagles mainly eat fish, though they also take waterbirds, terrapins, young crocodiles and some carrion. Sometimes they spot their prey from a perch, but they often make short flights across the water in search of fish.

When an eagle spots a fish underwater, it swoops down, making sure that its body does not throw a shadow on the water ahead. As it gets close to the spot where the fish is, it flies almost parallel to the surface, throws forward its feet and pushes them down into the water. Beating its powerful wings all the time, it grabs the fish with its claws and lifts it out of the water. Then it flies to the shore to eat the food in peace.



THE INSIDE STORY

The fish eagle's eyesight is so good that it can locate and catch a fish that's 50cm below the surface. The light-sensitive cells in its eyes are eight times more densely packed than those of a human's eye and so the eagle can see things in greater detail.



**HAKUNA
MATATA**
NO WORRIES!

Simba stubbornly refused to back away from the great, white elephant, who was advancing with a huge boulder held in its trunk. The lion was ready to give his own life in a desperate bid to buy time for his two pals to escape.

"Don't argue! Pumbaa, Timon! Take off!" boomed Simba in a tone demanding obedience.

The albino elephant let loose its mighty missile. But it was not aimed at the lion. The boulder flew past him, towards the mud pool Pumbaa had been about to plunge into before he'd been hurled backwards by a jet of water from the elephant's trunk.

SPLAT! No sooner did the boulder hit the soft, sticky surface than it sank without trace. Lion, warthog and meerkat stared in astonishment. Any normal mud pool would support even a heavyweight hippo. This one was something different – and deadly dangerous.

"Howling hyenas!" gasped the warthog. "That goo-hole's worse than quicksand. It would have swallowed me up!"

"I thought a demonstration would be the best way to convince you," came a deep, majestic voice. "Even in this hidden kingdom I rule, it is not quite paradise."

The three companions gazed at the huge elephant with a new

understanding. "You saved my bacon, your, er, greatness!" blurted Pumbaa. "And we thought..."

"We owe you our thanks," interrupted Simba.

"You showed great courage," the elephant smiled at the powerful young lion. "I am impressed."

"It was you I saw in the storm," added Timon, taking a cautious step towards the giant creature. "That's what brought us here. You made a great-looking ghost!" The elephant laughed, then

lowered his trunk, inviting the meerkat to jump on and climb up it.

"I'll admit that my pale hide is very unusual," replied their huge host, who introduced himself as Giganta. "A lightning bolt blasted an opening through the rock wall surrounding my kingdom. I came out to check the damage."

"Simba found the way in," said Timon. "He's almost as curious as he's clever!"

The full story rolled rapidly off Timon's tongue while he enjoyed a spectacular view, sitting on Giganta's head. The elephant listened thoughtfully to Timon's tale.

"I'm not used to visitors," he told the others. "A few birds have found their way here. But all have stayed. It is best that this place remains a secret."

"My lips are sealed!" agreed Timon. "Likewise, your majesty,"

added Pumbaa. "You can count on Simba and me!"

"Now I will show you all round," said Giganta, striding forward.

Simba and Pumbaa trotted alongside him. They marvelled at the rich vegetation, fruit-filled trees and cool, shady hollows. Fish jumped in the river and brightly coloured butterflies fluttered everywhere.

"No wonder you want this place to yourself, Giganta," said Pumbaa. "There's no way that I would want to share such a lovely place!"

"I am not alone here, but there is good reason for secrecy," said the elephant. "Watch carefully what happens now..."

Then, as the party approached a lush grazing area, many small antelopes – of a kind Simba and the others did not know – boldly approached. Birds swooped from the trees to greet Giganta and the visitors. Some even settled on Pumbaa's back. Monkeys, too, chattered excitedly and swung from tree to tree around the elephant and his guests.



Then Giganta explained, "I care for many small creatures.

They are completely without fear. I could not allow any hunting creatures to come here and do them harm."

"Yeah! Life's tough in the real world. Too many teeth and claws!" agreed Timon. "Not that Simba here would hurt anyone. He might be a lion, but he's a real pussycat!"

Simba had moved in front of the others. Suddenly, he froze, sensing danger.

"Wait! Keep back!" warned the lion, every muscle tense.

Next moment, there came the sound of splitting timber. A huge branch, damaged by the recent storm, suddenly crashed earthwards, just ahead of the group.

"Phe-ew! Nice timing, Simba," called Pumbaa. "If that had fallen on top of us, we would all be nursing a king-sized headache!"

The screech of a shocked monkey sounded from the fallen branch. Simba was first to reach it.

"Don't be afraid. I will help," he said. The lion used a powerful paw to lift the branch up and free its prisoner. The monkey gratefully bounded off to join his family troop in the green canopy above.

"Now it's my turn to be grateful, Simba," said Giganta. "Not only are you brave, but alert and gentle, too. There is need of you here."

Simba was puzzled until Giganta

explained that he was growing old and tired.

"I am the last of my herd. My time is growing short," said the elephant. "This secret kingdom will soon be in need of a new ruler."

Simba sat thoughtfully. He gazed at the sky, where a dark veil was spreading once more. For a fleeting moment, Simba remembered the Pride Lands and his father, King Mufasa. He felt a confused, distant longing, and was suddenly quite sure that he could not stay.

"I was born in a special place, too," Simba told Giganta.

The wise elephant nodded as he heard these words and understood that the lion's destiny lay elsewhere.

"The storm is returning," he said. "Come! You must become the first visitors ever to leave my kingdom. I know this secret is safe with you."

Already, distant thunder rumbled. Soon, a savage wind lashed the trees and shrubs. Again and again came the flashes of approaching lightning. Giganta led Simba, Pumbaa and Timon back to the opening in the rock wall.

Suddenly, a terrifying tongue of lightning split the sky. The blinding flash dazzled Simba and the others. With a came a thunder-clap as the lightning bolt struck, just above the opening. The rocky wall, already pounded by the first storm, shuddered again and began to slip. The falling stones threatened to seal the one way out of the kingdom.

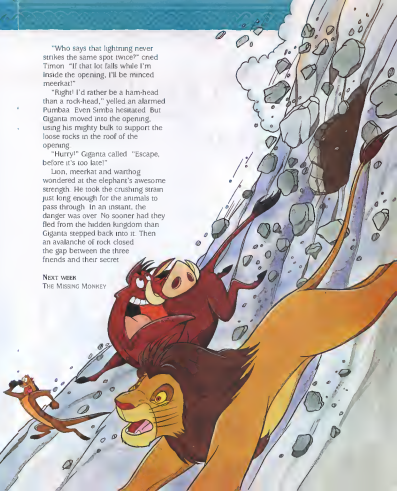
"Who says that lightning never strikes the same spot twice?" cried Timon. "If that lot falls while I'm inside the opening, I'll be minced meerkat!"

"Right! I'd rather be a ham-head than a rock-head," yelled an alarmed Pumbaa. Even Simba hesitated. But Giganta moved into the opening, using his mighty bulk to support the loose rocks in the roof of the opening.

"Hurry!" Giganta called. "Escape, before it's too late!"

Lion, meerkat and warthog wondered at the elephant's awesome strength. He took the crushing strain just long enough for the animals to pass through. In an instant, the danger was over. No sooner had they fled from the hidden kingdom than Giganta stepped back into it. Then an avalanche of rock closed the gap between the three friends and their secret.

NEXT WEEK
THE MISSING MONKEY

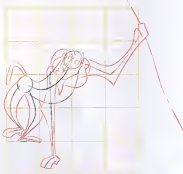


Get Drawing

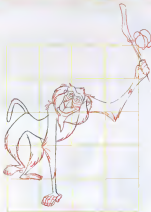
Smiling Rafiki



- 1** First, draw a circle for Rafiki's head. Then draw a direction line from the head to a circle for his hindquarters. Connect the two circles with lines for the body. Draw lines for his arms and legs.



- 2** Draw in the head and muzzle. Make a diamond shape for his nose and add eyes, brow and ears. Put in shapes for his hair and beard. Draw the limbs and tail and a direction line for Rafiki's staff.



- 3** Draw in the details on his face: eyeballs, stripes, nose and mouth. Put in fingers, toes and nails. Draw in the staff. Put furry bits on his head, body and tail.



Get Making

Fab Forest Foliage

You don't need green fingers or tropical sunshine to turn your room into a jungle!

YOU WILL NEED

3 metres of lens-wide steel rope
green plastic-coated garden wire
thick green (or green-painted) paper
sticky tape
pencil
scissors

Jungle Creeper

This everlasting jungle creeper is fun to make, and you can add to the foliage whenever you're in the mood!

- 1** To make the stem of the creeper, twist the end of the hank of garden wire firmly round the end of the rope.

- 2** Wind the wire round and along the rope, leaving about 5cm between each loop of the wire. When you get to the end of the rope, fasten off the wire as in step 1.

- 3** To cut lots of leaves at the same time, fold some green paper into rectangles of about 15 x 20cm. Use a pencil to draw a tropical leaf shape on the upper layer of paper.

- 4** Cut out the leaves through all the layers of paper. On one side of the leaves only, use felt-tips or paints to draw on lines for leaf veins. Add other leaf patterns if you wish.

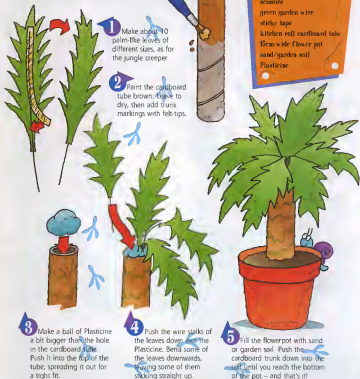
- 5** Cut a length of garden wire about 15cm longer than each leaf. Lay the wire down the centre of the unpainted side of the leaf, up to 1cm from the tip. Fix the wire firmly to the leaf with sticky tape.

- 6** Starting at the end of the wired rope, join on each leaf by twisting its stalk round the creeper rope. Repeat steps 3 to 6, varying the size of the leaves, until you have enough for the whole creeper.

- 7** Bend the leaves into a slight, downwards curve. Then ask an adult to help you fix the finished creeper round your door, bed-head or window frame. It will make your room look just like Simba's jungle!

Potted Plant

If you'd like your fab foliage a bit more contained than a jungle creeper, this potted version is the answer!



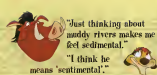
YOU WILL NEED

- green (or painted green)
- paper
- pencil
- scissors
- green garden wire
- sticky tape
- kitchen roll cardboard tube
- firm-wide flower pot
- sand/garden soil
- Plasticine

RIVERS

RIVERS ARE THE WATERY BY-WAYS OF THE WORLD. THEY CARRY WATER FROM HIGH PLACES TO THE LAKES AND SEAS THAT LIE BELOW. ALONG THE WAY THEY PROVIDE FOOD AND SHELTER FOR ALL KINDS OF ANIMALS.





When rain or snow falls on to the land, it may soak into the rocks or it may form a trickle and start to run downhill. Trickle meets other trickles and become a stream; one stream flows into another and a river is born, tumbling and crashing over rocks on its way to the sea. The fast-flowing water sweeps rocks and soil along with it. They rub against the river bed and wear it down.



▲ ON THE MOVE
Mountain streams tumble downhill, taking the quickest route they can.

► TALLING DOWN
Obstacles and steep drops do not stand in the way of a raging river.

The bullhead has a flattened body. It shelters on the river bed and the current rushes over it.



Dippons dive underwater and walk along the river bed, searching for insect larvae to snap up.



▲ TAKE IT EASY
Young rivers tumble, but older rivers, on low land, slow down and move leisurely.

▼ LAZY RIVER
A meandering river moves slowest on the inside of each bend. Sediment is dropped there.



Dextr mormyrids create an electric field around themselves and find small animals that distort the field.



Stonely nymphs have claws on each foot which enable them to grasp stones in fast-flowing streams.



▲ HIDDEN HUNTERS
Pikes lurk among the plants that grow near the river bank. Then they shoot out and snap up passing fish.

In time, a river may carve a deep valley or gorge.

Lower down, on flatter ground, the river slows down. Instead of rushing over obstacles, it flows around them and forms wide, sweeping bends. Near the sea, the ground is flatter still. The river meanders along, dropping the sediments it has carried for so long. The banks of sediment break up the main flow of the river into many finger-like strands, and a delta is formed.

Few plants and animals can live in fast-flowing mountain streams. There is no soil on the bed for plants to take root in, and the current is so fast that everything is in danger of being swept away. Certain kinds of insect larvae can stay put with the aid of claws or flattened bodies which act like suckers.

When the river slows down, it drops its sediment. Plants, such as crowfoot, can now take root and worms can live in the river bed. Algae grow on the plants' leaves and are eaten by snails and other small animals. Fish feed at different depths. Some probe the river bed, others pluck insects from the surface.



▲ A SOUND IDEA
River dolphins live in murky rivers. They use echolocation to find their way around.



The fisher spider is covered with tiny hairs that trap air and enable it to breathe while it hunts underwater.

PUZZLES

NIGHT NIGHT, SLEEP TIGHT

It's night-time on the savannah, Timon is snoozing in a nestful burrow, and Pumbaa's resting his rump down on an old cardboard box. A host of lurking snakes Timon. A pack of jackals is hunting above them. Pumbaa is in danger because the predators can easily reach him. The cheeky meerkat needs to save his friend. How can Timon reach Pumbaa through the maze of burrows, without waking any snakes or scorpions?

SLITHERY SNAKES

These snaky-sneaky snakes are all knotted together. How many are there?

HONEY SWEET HOME

Using the following clues, can you work out how many meerkats live in this burrow? Three meerkats are curled up asleep. Twice as many are out on the savannah searching for food. These two groups added together make up half of the total number of meerkats.

STINGING SCORPIONS

Two venomous scorpions are not in their nest. Can you find them hidden on this page?

SWIRLING BURROW

Read the clues and fill in the word spiral. The last letter of each word is the first letter of the next. The first word begins with S and starts at the centre.

- 1 Red sky at the end of the day.
- 2 To feel sleepy.
- 3 A strange imagining during sleep.
- 4 It lights up the sky when it's dark.
- 5 The opposite of day.
- 6 The faint light after the sun sets.

S

MORE PUZZLES

PUMBA'S DREAM

Pumbaa is dreaming of a waterfall with a squirrely nut bark. Seven lily pads are floating on the surface of the pool. Four pads have been circled by a ripple of water. Can you draw two more circles so that each pad is cut off from all the others?

IDENTICAL INSECTS

Which two dragonflies hovering round the pool are the same?

BEDTIME

These six creatures all sleep in different positions. Can you match up the creatures with the way they sleep?

elephant	in water
flamingo	sitting up
giraffe	standing
hippo	in the air
baboon	lying down
swift	standing on one leg

RAFIKI REMEMBERS

FINDING IS KEEPING

JUST BECAUSE YOU FIND SOMETHING, THAT DOESN'T MEAN IT'S YOURS. KEEPING SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU CAN GET YOU INTO ALL SORTS OF TROUBLE.

Tortoise went to market one day and bought up a whole lot of maize for his family. He tied the cobs into a bundle, put it on his back and set off home. Unfortunately, as he walked along, the branch of a tree fell across his path and he could not climb over it.

"I will push my bundle over the branch on to the other side," he thought to himself. "And then I will walk round the branch."

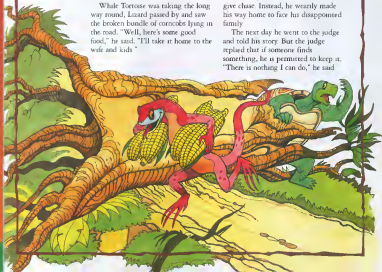
While Tortoise was taking the long way round, Lizard passed by and saw the broken bundle of corn cobs lying in the road. "Well, here's some good food," he said. "I'll take it home to the wife and kids."

As he took up the corn cobs, Tortoise came round the end of the branch and saw him. "Hey!" he cried. "Those are mine. I paid good money for them. They are for my family. Please leave them alone!"

"How do I know they are yours?" asked Lizard. "I have just found them, and as far as I'm concerned, they are mine." With that, he ran off.

As we know, a tortoise is no match for a lizard, and so Tortoise could not give chase. Instead, he wearily made his way home to face his disappointed family.

The next day he went to the judge and told his story. But the judge replied that if someone finds something, he is permitted to keep it. "There is nothing I can do," he said.



"That's no sword – that's my tail!" cried Lizard, indignantly.

"Let's go to the judge and see what he says," said Lizard.

So they went before the judge and Lizard explained what had happened. Then Tortoise remanded the judge that Lizard had found and kept Tortoise's food a few months back. The judge turned to Lizard and said,

Toe-toe is entitled to keep your tail. I have to treat you and ham the same. Had you been more generous to ham when you found his food, he might have given back your tail today. Let this be a lesson to you.



Read this Lion King fanst!

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foliage is covered with a silvery-grey, waxy bloom. The leaves are 2 to 4 inches long and 1 to 2 inches wide. The flowers are small and white.

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More Symbols

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 53

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2002 ANSWERS

NIGHT NIGHT, SLEEP TIGHT
Sharon Amador

Home Sweet Home: 10

Sailing Sunset: sunset, red, clear
moon, night, twili

identical insects: 3 and 4
Medicine

09-00000

Elephant standing;
flamingo standing
on one leg;
giraffe lying down;
hippo in water;
seagull sitting up;
zebra in the air.

Phonetic transcription: /pʰaːk ˈkʌʃ ˈlɛm/



